

11 December 1978

Larry,

[REDACTED] has offered a good response to this paper. I second his comments.

STATINTL

Some additional comments on the specific questions may be appropriate.

(a) The need for a definition. Information handling is ubiquitous, complex and multifaceted. There are many different definitions because there are many different information handling activities. The definition had best come from the top of the organization. If defined from within, the resulting perspective is piecemeal and incomplete.

The more appropriate question might be, which information handling problem must be addressed first. The answer to that question will define information handling for the task group.

(b) Major problems. Components must define their information needs. OTR needs to understand what it is expected to produce, and the time frames within which production must take place. OTR's production has to be responsive to the goals of its consumers; thus, most critical to OTR are component management goals translated into individual training needs.

(c) Management issues. I don't have sufficient perspective to respond meaningfully. My own bias is that we need to plan more effectively. Effective planning sooner or later involves every meaningful organizational activity.

(d) Programs. I would hope that the NAPA consultants produce a report that is of particular significance to this group. I'm not aware of other activities planned or underway. I'm sure there are many of them.